



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Man Convicted of Murdering Girlfriend in West Hollywood

A man was convicted today of torturing and killing his girlfriend in West Hollywood two years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jurors deliberated for less than a day before finding Blake Leibel (dob 5/8/81) guilty of one count each of first-degree murder, aggravated mayhem and torture. The panel also found true the special circumstance allegations of murder involving torture and mayhem.

Deputy District Attorneys Tannaz Mokayef and Beth Silverman of the Major Crimes Division prosecuted the case.

In May 2016, Leibel murdered his 30-year-old girlfriend, Iana Kasian, at an apartment they shared in West Hollywood. Kasian was tortured and mutilated before she was killed and all of her blood was drained from her body.

Leibel was later arrested at the apartment where he had barricaded himself.

He faces up to life in prison without the possibility of parole when he is scheduled to be sentenced on June 26.

Case BA443859 was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide Bureau.

### [About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.